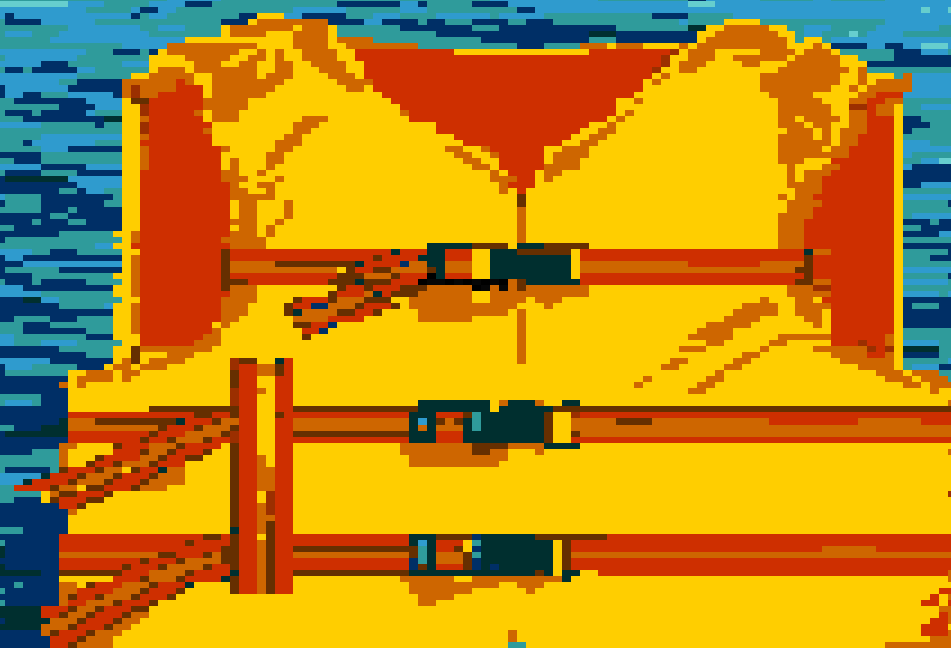


IT WON'T WORK  
IF YOU DON'T  
WEAR IT!



LIFE JACKETS  
SAVE LIVES

# Water Safety

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Drowning claims the lives of over 4,000 people every year. Although all age groups are represented, children ages 0-4 have the highest death rate due to drowning.

In 1998, 500 children under the age of five drowned. Most drowning and near-drowning happen when a child falls into a pool or is left alone in the bathtub.

# Water Safety Tips

Never leave a child alone near water -- at the pool, the beach or in the tub -- a tragedy can occur in seconds. If you must leave, take your child with you.

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Always use approved personal floatation devices (life jackets.) The U.S. Coast Guard estimates nearly 9 of 10 drowning victims were not wearing one.

Beware of neighborhood pools -- be it your own or your neighbors. Remove toys from in and around the pool when not in use. Toys can attract children to the pool.

For pools, barriers can offer added protection against drowning. Power or manual covers will completely cover a pool and block access to the water, however, be sure to drain any standing water from the surface of the pool cover as a child can drown in very small amounts of water.

Enroll children over age three in swimming lessons taught by qualified instructors. But keep in mind that lessons don't make your child "drown-proof."

Older children risk drowning when they overestimate their swimming ability or underestimate the water depth.

# Water Safety!

Learn to Swim

Learn CPR

When possible swim only in supervised areas

Don't leave toys in and around pools

Keep pool fences and house doors to pool area locked.

Keep lifesaving equipment by pool and know how to use it

# Teach your children these key swimming rules:

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1. Always swim with a buddy.
2. Don't dive into unknown bodies of water.
3. Don't push or jump on others.
4. Watch out for the dangerous too's  
too tired, too cold, too far,
5. Be prepared for an emergency.

# Boating /PWC Safety

Take a boating course

Wear Coastguard approved life jackets

Leave a float plan in the event emergency occurs

Ensure your boat is equipped with required emergency equipment

Know local weather conditions and return to shelter if threatening weather approaches

# Boating Pre-Departure Checklist

You can assure a good time while operating your boat or PWC by performing this pre-departure check.

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Leave your float plan with a responsible person.

Make sure that the steering and throttle controls operate properly and all lights are working properly.

Check for any fuel leaks from the tank, fuel lines, and carburetor.

Check the engine compartment for oil leaks.

Check hose connections for leaks or cracks and make sure hose clamps are tight.

## Boating Pre-Departure Checklist continued

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Drain all water from the engine compartment and be sure the bilge plug is replaced and secure.

Check to be sure the fire extinguisher is fully charged.

Make sure that the stop button works on a PWC.

Make sure the ignition safety switch and wrist lanyard are in working order.

Make sure you have the required number of personal flotation devices (PFDs) and they are in good condition.

# Boating Laws!

Minimum Required Equipment- Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs), Fire Extinguisher and Sound Producing Device

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Also, one Type IV throwable device must be on board.

Navigation Lights are required to operate between sunset and sunrise.

Flares are also required for vessels in coastal waters.

All vessels must be equipped with wearable (PFD) for each person aboard.

PFDs must be readily accessible to all occupants, in good and serviceable condition, legibly marked with the US Coast Guard approved number, and of appropriate size for the occupants.

# Boating Laws!

Children under age (10 GA or 12 SC) must wear an appropriately sized PFD when the vessel is under way.

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PFDs must be worn by each person aboard when operating a vessel in an area marked as "hazardous area".

All vessels cannot be operated over idle speed within (100 feet GA or 50 feet SC) of any moored or anchored vessel, vessel adrift, or any wharf, pier, piling, or persons in the water.

Personal watercraft (jetski) cannot be operated between sunset and sunrise.

It is unlawful to operate a boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.